

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS STATE 061377

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, HK

SUBJECT: TEXTILE CLASSIFICATION.

1. HONG KONG DTIC SUBMITTED TEXTILE SAMPLES, MEMO 14,
REF. CR/EIC/111/10/7, FEBRUARY 4, 1978 FOR CLASSIFICATION.
CUSTOMS REPORTS ON THESE SAMPLES AS FOLLOWS:

A. ITEM 2: LIGHTWEIGHT TERRY-TYPE KNIT SET CONSISTING OF
SHORTS AND SHORT-SLEEVE, V-NECK SHIRT. SHORTS ARE
CLASSIFIED, DEPENDING ON FIBER OF CHIEF VALUE, UNDER
CATEGORIES 348 OR 648, SHORT UNDER CATEGORY 339 OR 639,
IF SIZED OVER 24 MONTHS. IF SIZE 24 MONTHS OR SMALLER,
WOULD BE CLASSED AS INFANTS' SETS, CATEGORIES 359 OR 659.

B. ITEM 4: LIGHTWEIGHT TOP AND SKIRT SET. IF IN CHIEF
VALUE OF MAN-MADE FIBER, TOP WOULD BE CLASSED CATEGORY 639
AND SKIRT CATEGORY 642. IF IN CHIEF VALUE OF COTTON, TOP
WOULD BE IN CATEGORY 359; THERE IS NO STATISTICAL BREAKOUT
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FOR COTTON TOPS AND SUCH TOPS ARE CLASSED IN BASKET TSUSA
AS "OTHER". COTTON SKIRT WOULD BE IN CATEGORY 342.

C. ITEM 10: BOOTIES WITH SOLES. THIS IS SLIPPER SOCK,
ADULT SIZE WITH PLASTIC SOLE. PLASTIC ACCOUNTS FOR MORE
THAN 10 PERCENT OF WEIGHT, THUS PLACING IN FOOTWEAR
CLASSIFICATION NOT SUBJECT TO TEXTILE AGREEMENT.

2. HONG KONG DTIC SUPPLIED GAREL WITH TWO SAMPLES FOR CLASSIFICATION. CUSTOMS REPORTS ON THESE SAMPLES AS FOLLOWS:

A. PLASTIC DIPPED GLOVE. NONTRANSPARENT PLASTIC COVERED ENTIRE GLOVE EXCEPT FOR CUFF. SAMPLE CLASSED AS A PLASTIC GLOVE NOT COVERED BY AGREEMENT WITH APPLIED CUFF BEING DISREGARDED. SEE SCHEDULE 7, SUBPART C, HEADNOTE 2(A), PAGE 519 IN 1978 TSUSA.

B. BABY BOOTIE. CLASSED AS OTHER WEARING APPAREL IN CATEGORY 659.

3. HONG KONG DTIC RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS WITH GAREL. GUIDANCE FOR THESE QUESTIONS FOLLOW. (IF HONG KONG HAS FURTHER QUESTIONS, SUGGEST SAMPLES BE SUBMITTED FOR CLASSIFICATION.)

A. BIB TOP OVERALLS - BIB IS CONSIDERED DETACHABLE IF EASILY DETACHED FROM BOTTOM. THOSE NOT EASILY DETACHABLE SHOULD BE SEWN ON IN THE SAME MANNER THAT SEAMS OF GARMENTS ARE SEWN.

B. JUMPER - HONG KONG ASKED FOR A DESCRIPTION. WE ASSUME THAT HONG KONG WAS INTERESTED IN JUMPER DRESS WHICH IS UNCLASSIFIED

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A "ONE-PIECE GARMENT CONSISTING OF LOW-CUT BODICE IN STRIP-TOP EFFECT ATTACHED TO A SKIRT." IT IS DESIGNED TO BE WORN WITH A BLOUSE FOR MODESTY'S SAKE. ITEMS SUCH AS A DENIM SKIRT WITH FIRMLY ATTACHED BIB AND STRAPS (JUMPER) WOULD LIKELY TO BE CLASSED IN CATEGORY 359.

C. PLAYSUITS - COVERALLS AND OVERALLS FOR GIRLS AND INFANTS UP THROUGH SIZE 14 ARE CONSIDERED PLAYSUITS, CATEGORY 337 OR 637. LARGER SIZE FEMALE AND ALL MALE SIZES ARE CLASSED IN OTHER APPAREL, CATEGORY 359 OR 659. OTHER PLAYSUITS USUALLY ARE IMPORTED AS ENTIRETIES WITH TOP AND BOTTOM JOINED BY BUTTONS, SNAPS, ETC. OR WITH

BOTTOM HAVING STRAPS WHICH FIT UNDER LOOPS, ETC. ON SHOULDERS. TENNIS AND SIMILAR SETS WHICH DO NOT HAVE JOINED TOPS AND BOTTOMS MAY BE CONSIDERED AS PLAYSUITS IF IMPORTED AS AN ENTIRETY, PROVIDED DRESS PART IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY LONG TO BE WORN SEPARATELY.

D. INFANTS' SHIRTS AND BLOUSES - INFANTS' SPORT AND OTHER SHIRTS IMPORTED UNDER TSUSA NUMBERS 382.0077, 3368 AND 3370 ARE BOYS' SHIRTS OF COTTON AND CLASSIFIED AS CATEGORY

340, A MEN'S AND BOYS' CATEGORY. OTHERWISE, THE TERMS INFANTS' SHIRTS AND BLOUSES ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE SAME MEANING AND ARE CLASSIFIED IN THE CATEGORIES FOR WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS' SHIRTS AND BLOUSES WHICH ARE APPROPRIATE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION (KNIT OR NOT KNIT) AND THE FIBER.

E. INFANTS' DRESSES AND SHIRTS (BLOUSES) IMPORTED AS PARTS OF DIAPER SETS. THERE IS BASICALLY NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCH DRESSES AND SHIRTS. SOME DESCRIBE AS A DRESS, OTHERS AS A DIAPER SHIRT.

4. U.S. IMPORTERS HAVE RAISED SOME QUESTIONS WHICH NEED CLARIFICATION, AS FOLLOWS:
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A. WOOL (CASHMERE) SWEATERS - IMPORTER REPORTS THAT 14-GAUGE CASHMERE SWEATERS BEING VISAED BY HONG KONG AS KNIT SHIRTS. THE GAUGE CRITERIA IN U.S. CLASSIFICATION GUIDELINES APPLIES ONLY TO MAN-MADE FIBER SWEATERS AND SHIRTS.

B. FIBER CLASSIFICATION OF BLENDED ITEMS. IMPORTER REPORTS THAT HONG KONG USING CHIEF WEIGHT RATHER THAN CHIEF VALUE FOR COTTON-POLYESTER BLOUSES FOR VISA PURPOSES. WE DOUBT REPORT BUT PARAGRAPH 10 OF AGREEMENT DOES REQUIRE USE OF CHIEF VALUE AS FIRST STEP IN CLASSIFICATION.

5. PLEASE INFORM DTIC OF ABOVE. VANCE

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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
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